Report of College Women Development Cell (CWDC)

The University of Mumbai set up the University Women Development Cell (UWDC) in 2001 in response to the Vishaka judgment passed by the Supreme Court in 1997. The main objective of this cell is to make the University gender-sensitive. The College Women Development Cell (CWDC) of the college is constituted as per the directives of University of Mumbai. Its main objective is to sensitise students to the issues related to gender with specific reference to sexual harassment.

CWDC has conducted various activities in the current academic year to make our campus gender sensitive. These includes workshops, guest lectures screening of documentaries followed by discussions and deliberation

WORKSHOPS:

Adv. Kamayani took sessions for the staff of the college on "Sex Role and Gender Sensitisation' where she highlighted on issues related to patriarchy resulting in a biased sex role socialisation. She highlighted 'Sexual Harassment and Legal Implication'. It covered Vishaka guidelines on sexual harassment and rape

GUEST LECTURES:

Adv. Sonika Shetty spoke to the students on Gender sensitization and debates on Sec 377.

Class teachers sensitized their classes on gender issues. Forms, concerns and legal interventions on sexual harassment were also discussed .

Ms Urmi Jadhav a transgender person and activist had an interactive session with students on their exclusion from mainstream results in their marginalization .

DOCUMENTARIES.

The CWDC has screened a series of documentaries pertaining to gender sensitisation since students are able to relate and participate in a more effective manner. This is followed by discussions and deliberation and at times an activist or social worker is called to give their views. Some of the prominent documentaries screened are the following

BOL on gender discrimination

SILENT WATERS- film about a widowed mother and her young son living in a Punjabi village as it undergoes radical changes during the late 1970s

BORN IN BROTHELS -An Oscar winning documentary highlights the challenge that women face when they are in flesh trade. It highlights the life of children especially girls who are socialized to be future flesh trade workers.

WATER introspects into the tales of rural Indian widows in the 1940s and covers controversial subjects such as misogyny and ostracism.

PARCHED speaks on social evils and age-old traditions and practices of patriarchy, child marriage, dowry, marital rapes and women empowerment.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS This highlights the violence that women face behind closed doors in their respective families. The documentary teaches that women should not be treated as objects and has an identity of their own

Vatika Sibal
(In-charge)

Workshop- Self-defence for students by Mr. Joe Rodrigues

Session on sexual harassment forms, concerns and legal interventions for SY and TY students by class teacher

. Workshop on Gender relation by Adesh Chavan from Yuvva Aadhar